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January 7, 2007

## VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street, S.W.  
Room TW-B204  
Washington, DC 20554

**Re: Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service  
CC Docket No. 96-45  
WC Docket No. 05-337**

Dear Madam Secretary:

In accordance with Section 1.1206 of the Commission's rules, 47 C.F.R. § 1.1206, we hereby provide you with notice of two oral *ex parte* presentations in connection with the above-captioned proceedings.

On Thursday, January 4, 2007, Grant Spellmeyer of U.S. Cellular Corporation ("USCC") and undersigned counsel on behalf of USCC and the Alliance of Rural CMRS Carriers, met with Commissioner Michael J. Copps and Scott Deutchman, and Ian Dillner in Commissioner Tate's office, to discuss the Joint Board's consideration of universal service reform for areas served by rural telephone companies.

We discussed important reforms the Commission should undertake prior to implementing a reverse auction methodology for providing universal service support. The enclosed slide presentation provides details concerning our discussion.

If you have any questions or require any additional information, please contact undersigned counsel directly.

Sincerely,



David A. LaFuria

cc: Hon. Michael J. Copps

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Scott Deutchman, Esq.

Ian Dillner, Esq.

Enclosure